

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1024
By Atchley

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Joyce Johnson for her service to the Tennessee General Assembly and the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those exemplary legislative employees who have performed with consistent professionalism, uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Johnson is one such person who has served with probity for 20 years with the Senate as an executive assistant, first for former Senator Tom Garland, and then for current Senate Republican Leader Ben Atchley; and

WHEREAS, a proud native Tennessean born and raised in Knox County, Joyce Johnson is one of seven children born to Mary Hall and the late Austin Hall; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Knox Central High School, Mrs. Johnson furthered her education at the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, since arriving in the Senate in 1984, Joyce has earned the respect and admiration of her fellow staff members and the members of the General Assembly who have had the good fortune to seek her capable and exemplary assistance; and

WHEREAS, recognized nationally for her experience and keen insight, in 2003 Joyce Johnson served as Chair of the Staff Leadership section of the National Conference of State Legislatures, following a term in 2002 as Vice Chair, and presently serves on the NCSL Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, with great tradition, Joyce and her counterpart in the Senate Democrat Leader's office have presided over the back of the Senate Chamber from their matching chairs by the water cooler and heads have rolled when an unfortunate individual even thought to sit in her chamber chair; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Johnson has made many enduring friendships with the Senate members and staff through the years, and will be missed by all, but the big question remains, “Who will erase the board when she is gone?”; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Johnson exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family, community, and her work family that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Johnson is especially appreciative of the love and support she shares with her husband, Jeffery Johnson, and is the proud parent of son, Jeffrey Warwick, and daughter, Lisa Vondemmel; and

WHEREAS, a doting grandmother, Joyce Johnson has six beloved grandchildren, Jeffrey, Jeremy, and Melissa Warwick, and Nettie, Billy, and Skye Vondemmel, and two treasured great-grandchildren, Kylee and Emma; and

WHEREAS, after her retirement, she will have plenty of time to spend with her other “children,” Sydney and Sophia, her spoiled felines; her husband, Jeff, will also be able to give her more of his much requested golf tips; and

WHEREAS, although the members and staff of the Senate will miss Joyce, we rejoice with her that she will have more time to spend with family and the ability to engage in those leisure activities that have gone undone; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Joyce's faithful and competent attention to her duties and concern for her co-workers and legislators in both the Senate and the House of Representatives have won the respect and admiration of her peers and superiors alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Joyce Johnson for her distinguished service to this body and to the State of Tennessee and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.